

REPORT

ON THE

SANITARY & HOUSING CONDITIONS

OF THE

KIRKHAM URBAN DISTRICT,

FOR THE YEAR 1921.



CHARLES COURT, M.B.,

∴ *Medical Officer of Health.* ∴

KIRKHAM :

Printed by JOHN RIGBY, Poulton Street and Birley Street.

1922.

through the County Public Health Department. The numbers of births and deaths referred to in this report are those registered during the calendar year, corrected for inward and outward transfers.

AREA.—The area of the Kirkham Urban District is 857 statute acres.

POPULATION.—The Registrar-General estimates the population of the Kirkham Urban District at 3,892. This is based upon the census enumeration of June, 1921.

The number of inhabited houses is 877, and the number of families or separate occupiers 911. The average number of persons per house equals 4·4.

THE RATEABLE VALUE of the District is £13,570, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £56.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATE.—The number of births reported by the Registrar-General as occurring in, or belonging to the Urban District of Kirkham during the year under report was 74 : males 43, females 31, a decrease of 25 as compared with the preceding 12 months. Illegitimate births numbered 6 : males 5, females 1. Calculated on the estimated population of 3,892, the birth-rate for 1921 corresponded to 19·0 per 1,000, against a rate of 25·8 last year, a decrease of 6·8 per 1,000. The rate for the year under report was exactly the same as the mean birth-rate of the 10 years 1911-1920.

The provisional birth-rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1921 was 22·4 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATES.—The deaths occurring in, or belonging to Kirkham during the year 1921 numbered 50 : males 18, females 32, an increase of 5 deaths as compared with 1920.

The tabulated statement below, supplied by the Registrar-General analyses the causes of death distinguishing males and females :—

CAUSES OF DEATH	Males	Females
All Causes (Civilians only)	18	32
Enteric Fever .....	..	..
Small-pox .....	..	..
Measles .....	..	..
Scarlet Fever .....	..	..
Whooping Cough .....	..	..
Diphtheria .....	..	..
Influenza .....	..	..
Encephalitis lethargica .....	..	..
Meningococcal meningitis .....	..	..
Tuberculosis of respiratory system..	3	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	..	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	1	3
Rheumatic Fever .....	..	1
Diabetes .....	..	..
Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	1	2
Heart Disease	2	3
Arterio-sclerosis .....	..	..
Bronchitis	1	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	3
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	..	..
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ....	..	..
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	1	..
Appendicitis and Typhilitis .....	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	..
Acute and chronic nephritis .....	..	..
Puerperal sepsis .....	..	..
Other accidents & diseases of pregnancy and parturition .....	..	..
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	2	..
Suicide	1	..
Other deaths from violence	1	1
Other Defined Diseases	3	12
Causes ill-defined or unknown .....	..	..
Special Causes (included above) :—		
Poliomyelitis .....	..	..
Polioencephalitis .....	..	..
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	4	1
Illegitimate .....	..	..
Total Births	43	31
Legitimate	38	30
Illegitimate	5	1

Population 3,892.

The death-rate for the year 1921 calculated on the estimated population was equal to 12·8 per 1,000 against a rate of 11·7 last year, 15·7 in 1919 and 17·3 in 1918. The mean death-rate of the 10 years 1911-1920 was 17·1.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1921 was 12·1 per 1,000.

DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL EPIDEMIC DISEASES.—*Nil.*

PHTHISIS (PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS).—Six deaths were recorded from Phthisis : males 3, females 3, giving a rate of 1·54 per 1,000 of the population. Last year the phthisis death-rate was 1·04 and the mean of the 10 years 1911-1920 1·33.

BRONCHITIS, PNEUMONIA AND INFLUENZA.—Bronchitis and Pneumonia each contributed 4 deaths, but there were no fatalities from Influenza.

CANCER AND HEART DISEASE.—Cancer gave rise to 4 deaths, and Heart Disease 5 deaths.

INFANT MORTALITY.—The number of deaths of infants under the age of one year was 5 : males 4, females 1, as compared with 3 last year, and 8 in 1919. The infant death-rate calculated per 1,000 registered births was 67 against a rate of 30 in the year 1920 and an average of 148 for the 10 years 1911-1920.

The infant death-rate for the whole of England and Wales in the year 1921 was 83 per 1,000 births.

Particulars of infant deaths are given below :—

Sex.					Age.					Cause of Death
M	..	..	..	..	4 months	..	..	..	..	Diarrhœa
M	..	..	..	..	2 days	..	..	..	..	Debility
F	..	..	..	..	9 weeks	..	..	..	..	Bronchitis
M	..	..	..	..	7 months	..	..	..	..	Pneumonia
M	..	..	..	..	36 hours	..	..	..	..	Debility

The tabulated statement below compares the birth-rate and death-rates for 1921 with those of the preceding year and the mean of the 10 years 1911-1920 :—

Per 1,000 of Population.										
					Birth- rate	Death- rate		Phthisis Death- rate	Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births	
1921	..	..	..	..	19·0	..	12·8	..	1·54	.. 67
1920	..	..	..	..	25·8	..	11·7	..	1·04	.. 30
Mean of 10 years (1911-1920)	..	..	..	..	19·0	..	17·1	..	1·33	.. 148

*Increase or Decrease
in 1921 on—*

Previous year	...	- 6·8	...	+ 1·1	...	+ 0·50	...	+ 37
Ten years' average	...	<i>Nil</i>	...	- 4·3	...	+ 0·21	...	- 81

The following table gives the Provisional Vital Statistics for 1921 of England and Wales :—

	Annual Rate per 1,000 Total Population.		Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births
	Births	Deaths All Causes.	
England and Wales.....	22·4	12·1	83
96 Great Towns (including London (1911 Census Popu- lation exceeding 50,000)....	23·3	12·3	87
148 Smaller Towns (Populations 20,000—50,000.....	22·7	11·3	84
London	22·3	12·4	80

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1921.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year.

CAUSES OF DEATH				Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All Causes	Certified	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
	Uncertified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Debility				2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Other Causes (Congenital Heart Failure)				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chicken-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Diphtheria and Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Abdominal Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Laryngitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
{	Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
	Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
{	Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Gastritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Rickets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Injury at Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Congenital Malformations,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Premature Birth, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{	Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	
TOTALS				2	..	..	..	2	1	1	1	..	5

Nett Births registered during the calendar year { legitimate.. 68 } 74
 { illegitimate 6 }

Nett Deaths registered during the calendar year of { legitimate infants.. 5 } 5
 { illegitimate infants 0 }

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT during 1921 and previous years.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each year		BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
			Un-corrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District	of Residents not registered in the District	Under One Year of Age		At all Ages	
				Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births		
													Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1916	Est. Civilian Population :— For Births 3,880 For Deaths 3,566	..	58	14.9	59	..	..	16	9	155	75	21.03
1917	For Births 3,719 For Deaths 3,336	..	60	19.1	53	..	..	14	8	133	67	20.0
1918	For Births 3,673 For Deaths 3,278	..	68 Males.. 34 Females 34	18.5	52	..	..	5	4	58	57 Males.. 23 Females 34	17.3
1919	For Births 3,836 For Deaths 3,682	..	51 Males.. 24 Females 27	13.2	47	..	1	12	8	156	58 Males.. 30 Females 28	15.7	
1920	3,829	..	99 Males.. 50 Females 49	25.8	37	..	..	8	3	30	45 Males.. 19 Females 26	11.7
1921	3,892	..	43 Males.. 12 Females 31	19.0	44	..	..	6	5	67	50 Males.. 18 Females 32	12.8

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 4 cases were notified, viz. : 3 Scarlet Fever and 1 Enteric.

In addition, under the Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations 7 Pulmonary cases were notified.

Of the Tubercular cases, 5 patients received Sanatorium treatment during the year: 2 at Elswick, 2 at High Carley, 1 at Heath Charnock.

Two cases of Scarlet Fever received treatment at the Moss Side Isolation Hospital. One case of Scarlet Fever and 1 Enteric were treated at home.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Number of cases of infectious disease notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1921 :—

DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED.												HOSPITAL			
	Total Cases at all Ages.	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belonging to District.
Smallpox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	0	2	0
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Trench Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Influenzal Pncumonia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—Males	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	3	..	..
Females	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis—																
Males ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Measles and German Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken Pox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals.....	11	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	2	1	3	..	7	2	..

TUBERCULOSIS.

Seven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. Four of these cases terminated fatally, and also two which had been notified in 1920. One death of a child from Tubercular Meningitis also took place. The District is under the care of the Medical Officer of the Elswick Sanatorium. Every week notifications of Tuberculosis (if any) are sent to the County Council. The Tuberculosis Officer visits each patient with the Medical Attendant, and where necessary, domiciliary or sanatorium treatment is given. On the occasion of death or removal to a sanatorium the dwellings are always disinfected.

The ratio of the non-notified Tuberculosis Deaths was 1 out of 7 deaths. This being due to a misapprehension that it had been already notified. The efficiency of notification of Tuberculosis in the district is fairly good. The lapse is due in many cases to the procrastination of the patients themselves or their parents in obtaining medical advice soon enough.

SCARLET FEVER.

Cases 3, Deaths 0.

Two cases received hospital and one case home treatment. The first case occurred in February, and was that of a shop assistant residing in a neighbouring town. In ill-health she returned home, and was found to be desquamating. The other two cases were in June and October, and were those of girls attending schools outside this district, where scarlet fever was prevalent.

ENTERIC.

Cases 1, Deaths 0.

This case occurred in July, and was that of a resident teacher in a town outside this area. Returning home she became ill, and was subsequently notified as above. No local

cause as to the origin of this case could be traced, as the surroundings of the patient's home were satisfactory.

CHICKEN-POX.

This disease was made compulsorily notifiable from 17th September, 1921, for a period of six months on the advice of the County Medical Officer of Health, owing to the prevalence of small-pox in various districts. No cases of chicken-pox were notified.

SMALL-POX.

There have been no cases of Small-pox during the year.

Number of Primary Vaccinations	...	...	...	39
Number of Exemptions ..	...	...	...	37

No cases of Puerperal Septicæmia and Ophthalmia Neonatorum have occurred.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS:

Hospitals and other Institutions available for the District.

MIDWIVES' ACT, 1902.—There is one Certified Midwife, whose name is on the County Register practising in this district. The County Medical Officer has appointed a Lady Inspector to visit the District, and a part-time Health Visitor, who on receipt of notification of a birth visits each case and gives necessary advice.

THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS as previously mentioned, is under the care of the Medical Officer at the Elswick Sanatorium, near Kirkham.

SCHOOL CLINIC.—The Medical Inspection of School Children has been carried out in all the Schools by the School Medical Officer, acting under the County Council.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC.—Treatment is given at the Preston Royal Infirmary under a scheme of the County Council.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—There are no hospitals in the district, but advantage is taken of those in the neighbourhood, viz.—THE FYLDE CONJOINT HOSPITAL at Moss Side, near Lytham, for Infectious Diseases, THE PRESTON, FYLDE, AND GARSTANG HOSPITAL at Elswick for Small-pox. The number of beds is not limited in either case. There is also a Sanatorium at Elswick, near Kirkham, for Tubercular patients.

THE PRESTON ROYAL INFIRMARY is used for serious accidents and surgical operations, and the Fylde Union Infirmary at Wesham, receives necessitous cases, and those of Maternity when required.

As to hospital administration, committees are formed consisting of representatives from the various Councils of the area.

The Ambulance facilities are very good. The Moss Side Isolation Hospital has a Motor Ambulance for the conveyance of patients to the Institution. The local St. John Ambulance Brigade and the Council have also a Motor Ambulance for the conveyance of non-infectious and accident cases.

The Fylde Union Institution is situated at Wesham, near Kirkham. The accommodation is very good, and is not only used by the Kirkham Urban District, but also for the Fylde Rural District, Blackpool, Fleetwood, Poulton, Lytham and St. Annes. The total number of inmates on 31st December, 1921, was 266.

THE COTTAGE HOMES in Moor Street for Destitute Children from the Fylde District consist of modern semi-detached houses, each of which is under a foster mother supervised by a Superintendent and Matron. The total number number of children on December 31st, 1921 was 65 : 43 boys, and 22 girls.

LABORATORY WORK.

Two specimens of Sputum were sent to the Elswick Sanatorium for examination, and both proved positive. There was also one examination of a throat swab, which proved negative. The examination of specimens for the detection of Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, etc., are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, when necessary. A supply of anti-toxin is kept within the district, and given to Medical Practitioners when required.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL ACTS OR GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS.—You have adopted the Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act and the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.—The Staff consists of a Medical Officer, and a Sanitary Inspector, whose salaries are partly paid by the County Council. Both are part time officials. The work of the Inspector includes that of Surveyor, Building Inspector, and District Rate Collector.

In concluding my Report, after comparing the rates with those of England and Wales, I think you will be gratified when you observe that we have had a small Infantile Death-rate, viz. :—67 per 1,000 Births, a fair Birth-rate 19·0 per 1,000 of population, a Death-rate of 12·8 which is fair compared with that of 12·1 of England and Wales.

The Phthisis Death-rate of 1·54 per 1,000 however, compares unfavourably with our ten years' average, viz. : 0·21 per 1,000. The slight increase in the latter Death-rate may probably be due to the greater vigilance of Medical Practitioners and Tubercular Officers in diagnosing the disease earlier than in former years.

Also, as previously mentioned, only 4 cases of Epidemic Diseases were notified (3 Scarlet Fever, and 1 Enteric) when Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever were so prevalent in other districts.

Taking the Report as a whole, I consider we can congratulate the Town on its healthy conditions during the year 1921.

I am, yours obediently,

CHARLES COURT.



KIRKHAM URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Kirkham
Urban District Council.*

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting my Tenth Annual Report on the work done in the Sanitary Department during 1921. During the year 76 notices and letters have been served with regard to the abatement of nuisances and the remedying of insanitary conditions, chief of which were defective privies, drains, and backyards.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

SCAVENGING.

The Scavenging of the town is carried out satisfactorily by our own men and carts under my personal supervision. The number of privies are gradually being reduced in number, and this year 38 privies have been converted into fresh water closets, two water closets have been erected in connection with two new houses, two additional water closets at the Black Horse Hotel, Preston Street, and four at the New Mill Extension, Sunny Bank, making a total of 46 additional fresh water closets during the year.

The following list gives the number of privies which have been converted into water closets during the last ten years :—

During	1912	...	...	15
„	1913	...	...	23
„	1914	...	...	17
„	1915	...	...	82
„	1916	...	...	23
„	1917	...	...	3
„	1918	...	...	9
„	1919	...	...	23
„	1920	...	...	29 and 1 pail closet.
„	1921	...	...	38

During this period the whole of the cost of conversion has been borne by property owners, and all new property erected has been provided with fresh water closets.

The following is the number of water closets, tippler closets, latrine closets, pail closets, privies and ashbins in the town at the present time, and the list shows a preponderance of fresh water closets over every other class :—

Fresh Water closets	...	...	602
Tippler closets	...	...	28
Latrine closets	...	...	39
Pail closets	...	...	16
Privies	...	...	139
Ashbins	...	...	392
Dry Ashpits	...	..	46

The pail closets and ashbins are emptied once a week, and the privies when required.

The number of privies, pail closets, and ashbins emptied, and the number of loads of nightsoil, ashbin refuse, and street sweepings carted during the year are as follows :—

Privies emptied and disinfected	...	1024
Privy pails	...	832
Ashbins emptied	...	20163
Loads of nightsoil carted to tip	...	1138
,, ashbin refuse	...	662
,, street sweepings	...	282

Suitable tips are provided at some distance from dwelling-houses.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Sewerage System is fairly satisfactory in the main, and several side streets. The main sewers consist of socketted pipes, in two of the side streets the sewer consists of egg-shaped tiles, these are 15 inches in diameter. The main sewer is conveyed in socketted pipes to the settling

tanks at Freckleton, and thence to the River Ribble. The tanks are cleaned out every year. The sewers have been flushed when required during the year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No rivers and streams pass through the district.

WATER SUPPLY.

This is under the control of the Fylde Water Board. It is an upland surface water of good quality and soft. On account of its soft nature there will be, no doubt, a slight re-action on lead pipes, but no cases of lead poisoning have been reported.

The water mains have been flushed by the Water Board's workmen during the year.

All houses in the town are supplied with Fylde water. In Garden Street, South View, and parts of Orders Lane, the water supply is deficient in quantity owing to these parts being terminal pipes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTIONS.

The following is a list of cases of infectious diseases notified and the number of disinfections during the year :

Number of cases notified of Scarlet Fever	...	...	3
„ „ „ Diphtheria	...	...	—
„ „ „ Enteric	...	...	1
„ „ „ Measles	...	...	—
„ „ „ Erysipelas	...	...	—
„ „ „ Puerperal Fever	...	...	—
„ „ „ Tuberculosis	{ Pulmonary Other forms		7 —
Number of Schools disinfected	...	...	4
Total number of disinfections	...	...	25

All cases were visited upon receipt of notification. After the removal of patients for either Hospital or Sanatorium treatment the rooms were thoroughly disinfected with formalin. All cases that were treated at home were visited from time to time, disinfectants supplied, and instructions given for the proper isolation of the patients to prevent the spread of the disease.

SCHOOLS.

The Schools are all inspected regularly, and found satisfactory. There was one school closed, viz.:—The Willows R.C. on September 28th, for a period of 4 weeks owing to mumps.

Closet accommodation is on the water carriage system in all the schools. Water supply derived from the Fylde Water Board's mains.

The re-asphalting of the Willow R.C. School would be beneficial.

The Medical Inspection of school children under the Education (Administrative Provision) Act has been carried out in all schools in the district by the School Medical Officer, acting under the County Council.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

The Workshops on the Register number 34 and include :—

Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	7
Boot Repairers...	...	...	...	7
Plumbers	...	...	...	2
Joiners	...	...	...	5
Blacksmith	...	...	...	1
Cycle and Motor Repairing	...	...	...	4
Harness Making	...	...	...	1
Tinsmith	...	...	...	1
Dressmakers	...	...	...	3
Tailors	...	...	...	3

The Factories number 7 and include the following :—

Cotton Mills	...	...	...	...	...	4
Steam Laundry	...	...	...	...	...	1
Printing Works	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gas Works	...	...	...	...	...	1

The Sanitary accommodation of Factories and Workshops complied with the Order in regard to sufficiency and suitability, and were found to be satisfactory on inspections. Alterations have been made to one of the bakehouses which have been a great improvement.

The factories are provided with means of escape in case of fire.

There are no underground bakehouses.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There is only one lodging-house which is situated in Marsden Street. It is a large building, well-arranged, and has sleeping accommodation for 42 men, and 33 women, besides separate dayrooms for men and women on the ground floor. These premises have been regularly inspected both during the daytime and the night, and there has been no case of over crowding. In December the registration was transferred from Henry Slater to Dobson Heaps.

The three privies at the lodging-house have been converted into water closets ; also two additional water closets are to be erected, when completed there will be five water closets in place of three privies.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are two offensive trades in the town—one a rag and bone store, and the other tripe boiling. These premises are visited regularly, and they have not been the cause of any complaint.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are only three Registered Slaughter-houses in the district, which have been regularly visited both during slaughtering operations and after. They are all provided with a good supply of water for cleansing purposes, and they have all been kept clean and well lime-washed. All the refuse is removed in galvanised bins with covers immediately after slaughtering.

FOOD.

Careful inspections are made every week of all food exposed for sale in the various shops, and the premises where food is stored.

A quantity of frozen and other meat is brought into the district from neighbouring parts ; it is therefore necessary that there should be uniformity in inspection in all districts to safeguard against the importation of unsound meat and foods.

No cases of food poisoning have been notified or ascertained during the year. Restaurant kitchens, fried fish and potato establishments, and other food preparing premises have received periodical inspections, and have been kept in satisfactory condition, and the food prepared in clean surroundings.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The following samples were taken by the County Constabulary during the year ended December 31st, 1921 :—

Number of Samples		Description of Articles				Result of Analysis
1	Barley	...	...	Genuine
2	Coffee	...	...	„
1	Pepper	...	...	„
1	Ground Almonds.			„
1	Ground Rice	...		„
9	Milk	...	...	„

All samples purchased were declared by the County Analyst to be genuine.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER.

There are 8 Registered Cowsheds and Dairies, and 1 Milk Purveyor in the District. 143 inspections have been made to these premises, which have been kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

BLACK SMOKE NUISANCE.

12 observations have been made of the amount of black smoke which issued from the factory chimneys of the town. The period of the emission of black smoke varied from 2 to 3 minutes per hour during the observation.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Total number of visits and inspections	...	...	...	7369
Number of preliminary notices served by Inspector	...			76
Number of statutory notices served by order of Council				2
Number of nuisances remedied	...	...	...	98
Number of houses disinfected	...	...	...	21
Number of schools disinfected	...	...	...	4
Slopstone waste pipes and soil pipes repaired	...	...		5
Drains opened out and defects rectified	...	...	...	11
New drains and gullies put in	...	...	...	23
Defective spouts and gutters repaired	...	...	...	4
Privies converted into water closets	...	...	...	38
Notice to remove manure from stables and cowsheds	...			4
Water closets blocked up	...	...	...	18
Defective house roofs repaired	...	...	...	4
Number of backyards flagged or concreted	...	...		12
Notice to limewash workshops and bakehouses			...	2
Inspections to factories, workshops and bakehouses	...			175
Inspections to drains and sanitary conveniences to schools	...	...	...	68
Number of dwelling-houses demolished		...	...	8
Number of buildings demolished	...	...	...	1

Legal proceedings were taken in two cases where the notice had not been complied with, in both cases an order was made for the work to be carried out within 14 days.

HOUSING ACTS.

The total number of occupied houses in the town is 877.

The present population is 3,892, which works out at an average of 4·4 persons to each house.

The following houses and buildings have been demolished :—6 houses in New Row, 2 houses in Marsden Street, also a block of buildings consisting of a shippon, loose box, and a privy and midden behind 40 Marsden Street.

Schemes have been submitted and approved for alterations to 6 houses, numbered 15, 17, and 19 Old Row, and 88, 90, and 92, Freckleton Street. When completed these houses will be much improved.

No plans for new houses have been submitted during the year, however, three additional houses have been erected, the plans of which had been submitted the previous year. The general housing condition of the Urban District of Kirkham is on the whole good, with the exception of some of the houses in the older parts of the town. These houses are being dealt with. Overcrowding of houses leads to insanitary conditions which are conducive to ill-health, and those affected are more liable to disease.

The vital importance of good housing is recognised and the standard of the future homes should therefore have careful attention, such as site selection, freedom from dampness, ample floor space, water supply, a movable dustbin, and water closets.

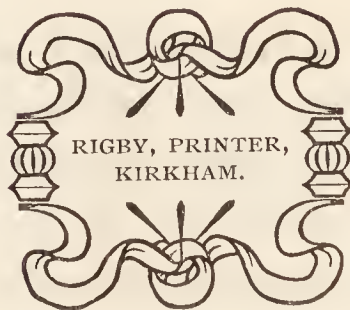
To prevent disease is a worthier aim than to cure disease. The main question with sanitary reformers is not so much how to deal with evils when they arise, but how to create a social environment which will be conducive to the healthy development of the people.

I am, yours obediently,

JAMES R. HOLMES,

M.I.H.. A.R.S.I., N.D.A.

Sanitary and Building Inspector.



HOUSING.

Number of New Houses erected during the year—	
(a) By private enterprise 	3
(b) As part of Municipal Housing Scheme.	Nil
Number of houses in course of erection under Council's Building Scheme	Nil

UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES INSPECTION.

Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 	17
Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	8
Have the particulars of these inspections been fully recorded as specified in the Regula- tions 	Yes
Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... ..	8
Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	Nil

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers 	Nil
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 28 OF THE HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACT, 1919 :—

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 	Nil
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- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—
- (a) By Owners Nil
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil
- (3) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by Owners of intention to close Nil

B. PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—

- (1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 6
- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—
- (a) By Owners 6
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

C. PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 17 AND 18 OF THE HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACT, 1909 :—

- (1) Number of Representations made with view to the making of Closing Orders.. Nil
- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil
- (3) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the Dwelling-houses having been rendered fit Nil
- (4) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... Nil
- (5) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders ... 8

D. NUMBER OF HOUSES DEMOLISHED VOLUNTARILY BY OWNERS, OR CONVERTED TO WORKSHOPS, ETC.
Nil